

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ACCRA 01567 250947Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
TRSE-00 CU-04 EUR-12 /075 W
-----038104 252357Z /61

R 241529Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2393
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACCRA 1567

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, PINT, GH
SUBJ: UNION GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN MOVES INTO HIGH GEAR

REF: ACCRA 1200

1. HEAD OF STATE ACHEAMPONG HAS COMPLETED A FOUR-DAY
OFFICIAL VISIT TO ASHANTI REGION. OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE
OF TOUR WAS TO OPEN KUMASI SPORTS STADIUM, RECENTLY
RENOVATED AT GREAT EXPENSE FOR 11TH AFRICAN CUP OF
NATIONS SOCCER TOURNAMENT. REAL PURPOSE, HOWEVER,
WAS CLEARLY TO CAMPAIGN FOR UNION GOVERNMENT ON
HOME GROUNDS OF HIS OPPONENTS, PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT
FOR FREEDOM AND JUSTICE.

2. IN HIS SPEECHES, ACHEAPONG STRESSED FAMILIAR
THEMES. HE CALLED ON CITIZENS TO EMBRACE UNION
GOVERNMENT AND THUS BRING ABOUT PEACE AND PROSPERITY.
HE ATTACKED HOARDERS AND SMUGGLERS AND ANNOUNCED NUMEROUS
PORK-BARREL PROJECTS. GOG-CONTROLLED PRESS DEPICTED TRIP
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ACCRA 01567 250947Z

AS UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS. HOWEVER, INDEPENDENT KUMASI
PIONEER REPORTED THAT ON FEBRUARY 20, ANTI-UNION
GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PRO-UNION GOVERNMENT
THUGS CLASHED IN A SUBURB OF KUMASI WHEN CROWDS
TURNED OUT TO SEE ACHEAMPONG DRIVE BY. THUGS REPORTEDLY
CHASED STUDENTS AND BEAT UP HEADMASTER. SEVEN STUDENTS
WERE SAID TO BE ARRESTED AND OTHERS TREATED FOR INJURIES.

SCHOOL PREFECT ALLEGEDLY WAS KNIFED IN BACK BY ONE OF THE THUGS BUT NOT CRITICALLY INJURED. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND ACHEAMPONG WAS BOOED IN AT LEAST ONE OF HIS KUMASI APPEARANCES.

3. OTHER MEMBERS OF RULING SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (SMC) HAVE ALSO BEEN ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL IN ASHANTI OR OTHER REGIONS -- INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE AKO, AIR FORCE COMMANDER BOAKYE, ARMY COMMANDER KOTEI AND CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF AKUFFO ALL HAVE BEEN PUSHING HARD FOR UNION GOVERNMENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, LEADERS OF PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR FREEDOM AND JUSTICE HAVE KEPT A LOW PUBLIC PROFILE SINCE CANCELLATION OF FEBRUARY 10 RALLY (REFTEL). PREVENTED FROM STAGING NEW RALLIES, THEY HAVE HELD A FEW PRESS CONFERENCES AND ARE REPORTEDLY TRYING TO ADVANCE THEIR CAUSE BY WORD OF MOUTH AND PERSON-TO-PERSON CONTACTS. VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN BY ACHEAMPONG AND SMC SUGGESTS THEY ARE STILL CONCERNED BY MOVEMENT'S POTENTIAL STRENGTH AND POSSIBILITY IT MAY YET TURN OUT A BIG ANTI-UNION GOVERNMENT VOTE IN THE REFERENDUM. SMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ACCRA01567
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780088-0619
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780219/aaaaaput.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6fdedad0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ACCRA 1200
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3494867
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNION GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN MOVES INTO HIGH GEAR
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, PINT, GH, (ACHEAMPONG, IGNATIUS KUTU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6fdedad0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014